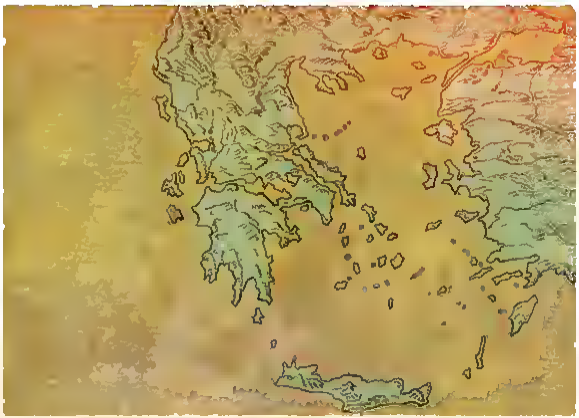
ABOUT 2,600 YEARS AGO,
THE ANCIENT GREECE WAS
MADE UP OF POLIS(CITY STATES)
AROUND THE AEGEAN SEA,.

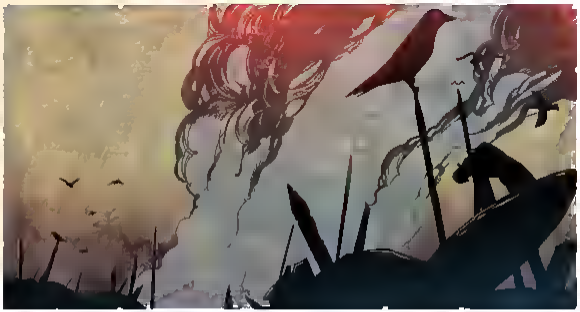


THE CITIZENS OF EVERY POLIS CONSIDERED
THEMSELVES AS GREEK, YET EACH POLIS HAD
INDEPENDENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS, AND
EXPERIENCED PROSPERITY AND DECLINE.

AT FIRST, THE POLITICAL SYSTEM WAS MONARCHY IN ALL POLIS, BUT AS TIME WENT BY, IT CHANGED INTO DIFFERENT FORMS SUCH AS ARISTOCRACY RULED BY ARISTOCRATS, PLUTOCRACY RULED BY PEOPLE WITH WEALTH, AND TYRANNY RULED BY A PERSON CALLED TYRANNOS.

AND ATHENS HAS OLIGARCHY RULED BY NINE ARCHONS.

ONCE, ATHENS ALMOST HAD
TURNED INTO A TYRANNY BY
THE HISTORICAL EVENT CALLED
'THE CURSE OF CHILON'.



CHILON ATTEMPTED TO SEIZE ATHENS.
BUT HE FAILED AND ATHENIANS
MADE THEIR POLIS STRONGER
BY ESTABLISHING
MORE STRICT STATUTE LAW.

'DRACONIAN CODE' GIVES DEATH PENALTY REGARDLESS OF THE GRAVITY OF THE OFFENSE.

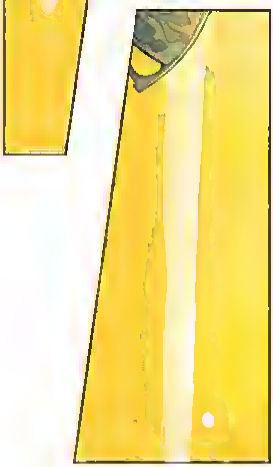
AND 20 YEARS LATER...

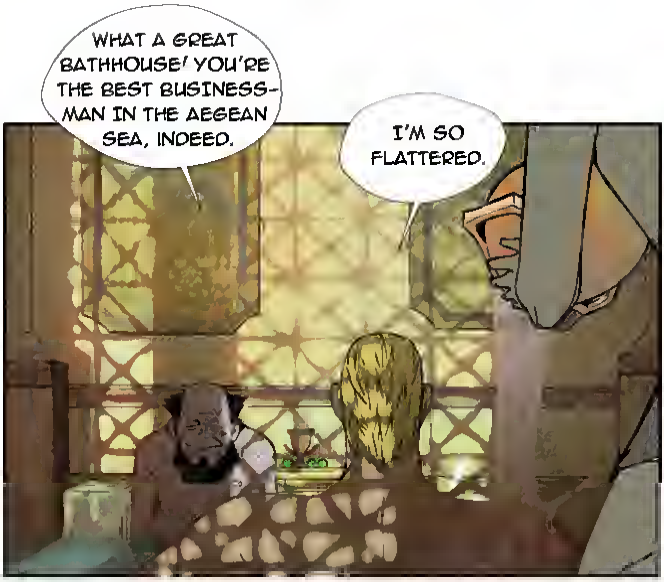
IT LOOKED LIKE THE ERA THAT'S PEACEFUL AND FRAGRANT LIKE SPRING, BUT IN FACT, IT WAS THE ERA OF BRUTALITY WHEN NUMEROUS SLAVES WERE NOT AWARE OF HOW PAINFUL THEIR PAIN WAS...

THE ERA, WHICH 10-YEAR-OLD AESOP, WHO WITNESSED HIS PARENTS' DEATH BUT COULDN'T EVEN CRY, HAS TO LIVE ON.

STORY/ YANGSOO KIM
DRAWING/DOGADO

EPISODE 8
THE FOX AND THE CRANE-PART (4)



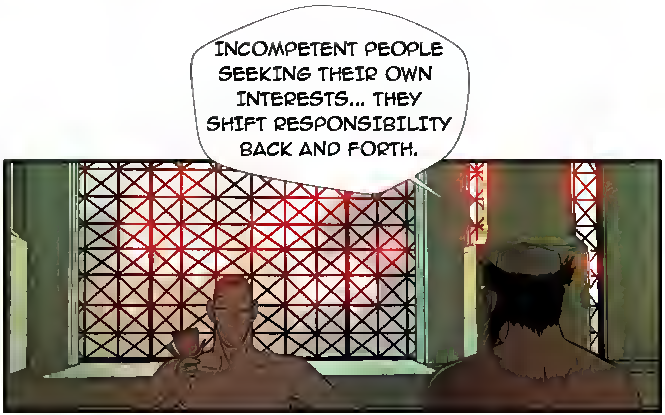

WHAT A GREAT BATHHOUSE! YOU'RE THE BEST BUSINESS-MAN IN THE AEGEAN SEA, INDEED.
I'M SO FLATTERED.

DO YOU HEAR ABOUT SAMOS FROM TIME TO TIME?
I HAVEN'T PAID MUCH ATTENTION TO THAT PLACE RECENTLY.
IT SEEMS THAT THEY'RE EXPERIENCING SOME POLITICAL ISSUES AS WELL.

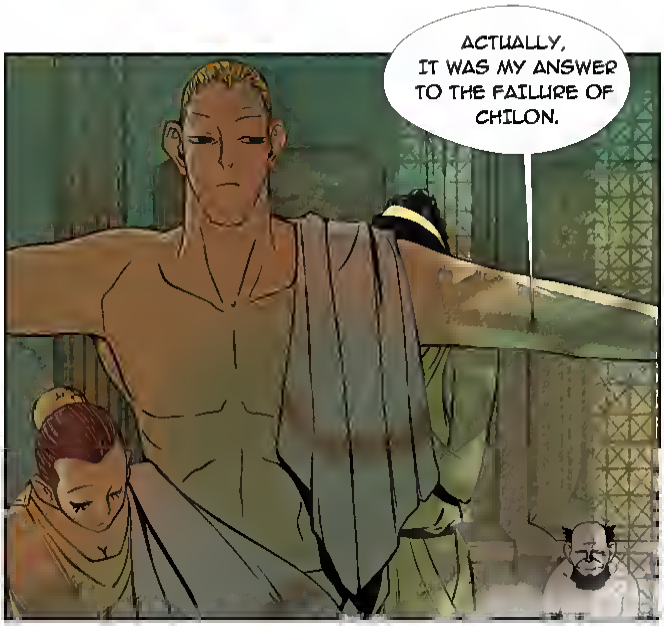
THESE DAYS, THERE ARE MORE POLEIS WHICH BUILT A DICTATORIAL REGIME FOR TYRANNOS.
FROM OUTSKIRTS OF GREECE, THE MOVEMENT FOR TYRANNY IS SPREADING OUT ACROSS POLEIS.
IF CHILON'S REVOLUTION HAS SUCCEEDED 20 YEARS AGO, ATHENS ALSO WOULD HAVE BECOME A POLIS RULED BE TYRANNOS.
ABSOLUTELY IF IT SUCCEEDED, ATHENS WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SPOILED BY NINE ARCHONS.

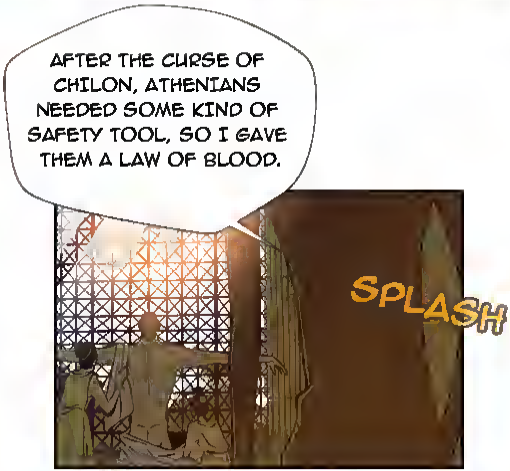
WELL...
OLIGARCHY
IS SO...

HYPOCRITICAL
AND DISGUSTING.


INCOMPETENT PEOPLE SEEKING THEIR OWN INTERESTS... THEY SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY BACK AND FORTH.

BUT DRACON, YOU ARE ONE OF THOSE NINE ARCHONS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE ONE OF THEM. I'M JUST KEEPING MY PLACE 'CAUSE IT'S THE BEST FOR NOW.
BUT THANKS TO 'DRACONIAN CODE' YOU MADE, ATHENS WAS ABLE TO BECOME STABLE.
SPLASH

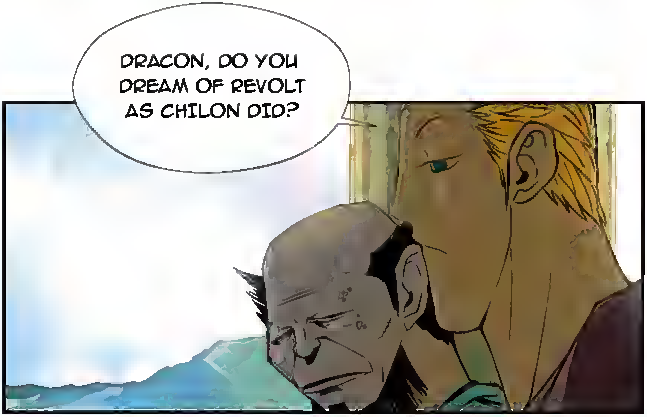

ACTUALLY, IT WAS MY ANSWER TO THE FAILURE OF CHILON.


AFTER THE CURSE OF CHILON, ATHENIANS NEEDED SOME KIND OF SAFETY TOOL, SO I GAVE THEM A LAW OF BLOOD.
SPLASH

BUT THE
INTERESTING
FACT IS...

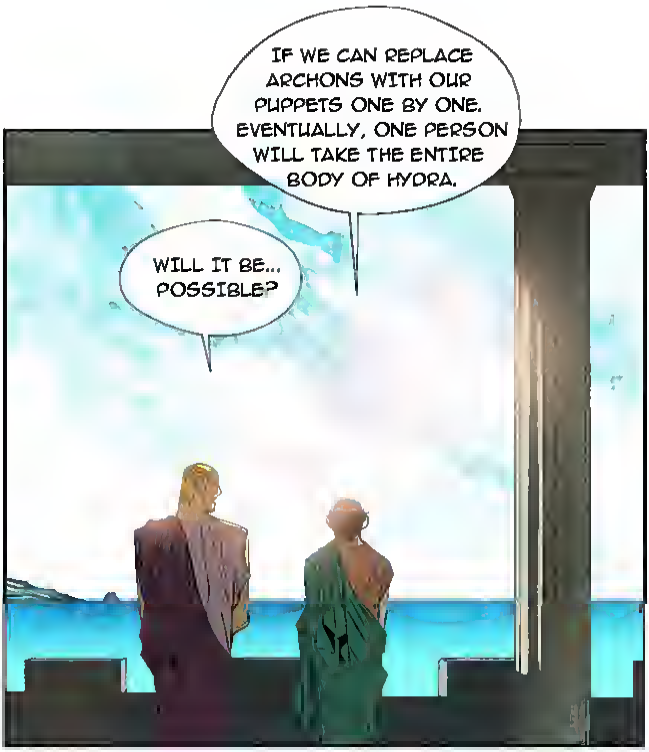
EVEN AFTER LOSING THEIR FREEDOM BY THE STRICT RULES, PEOPLE FEEL MORE STABILIZED THAN BEFORE.
FUNNY, HUH? THEY ARE AGAINST THE DICTATORSHIP OF TYRANNOS, BUT FALL FOR THE WORSE, CALLED "LAW".

THEN...


DRACON, DO YOU DREAM OF REVOLT AS CHILON DID?

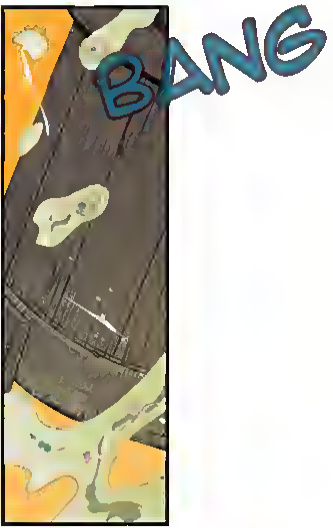
OLIGARCHY IS LIKE HYDRA WITH NINE HEADS. IF YOU CUT ONE OF THOSE, ANOTHER ONE GROWS.

I'LL TAKE THE WAY HERCULES USED WHEN HE KILLED HYDRA. AFTER CUTTING OFF ITS HEAD, I'LL BURN THE CUT SO THAT ANOTHER HEAD DOESN'T GROW FROM IT...

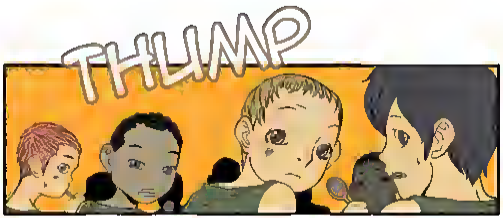

IF WE CAN REPLACE ARCHONS WITH OUR PUPPETS ONE BY ONE. EVENTUALLY, ONE PERSON WILL TAKE THE ENTIRE BODY OF HYDRA.
WILL IT BE... POSSIBLE?

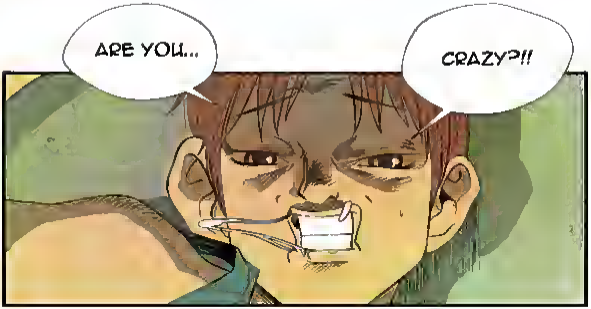
YADMON, KEEP THIS IN MIND IF YOU WANT TO HELP ME.
POLITICS IS A WAR AGAINST ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

A TINY REVOLT BY A PERSON EAGER FOR A CHANGE WILL DRASTICALLY RAISE THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS.


BANG

THUD


THUMP

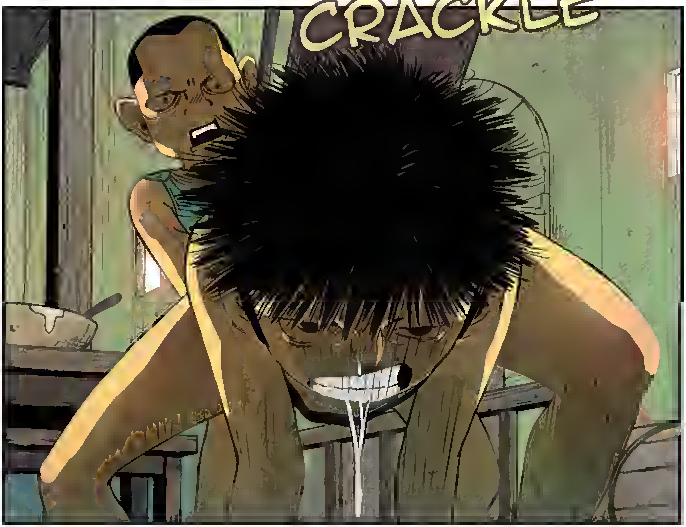

ARE YOU...
CRAZY?!!

IF I CAN'T EAT...

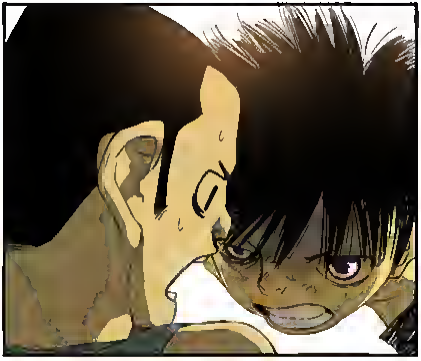
NEITHER
CAN YOU.

YOU LITTLE BASTARD, ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
CRACK

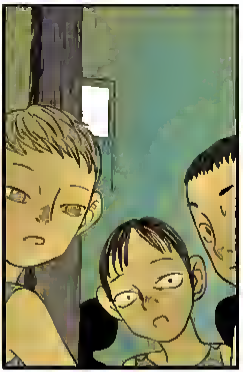
TREMBLE

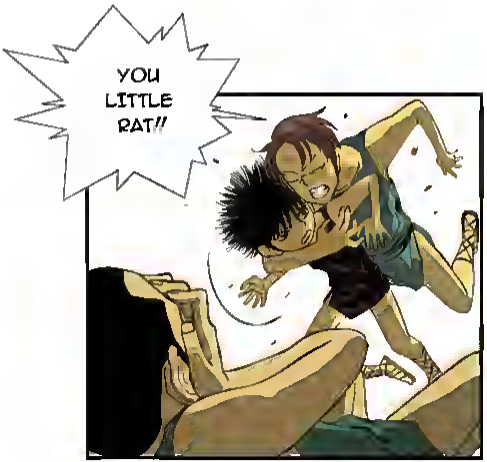

CRACKLE

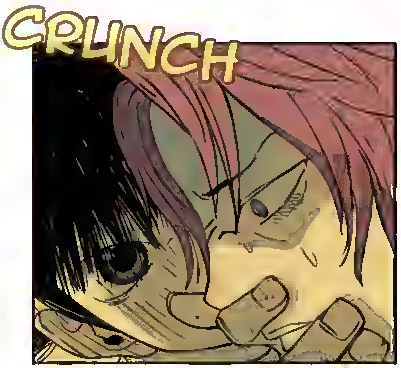
PANG



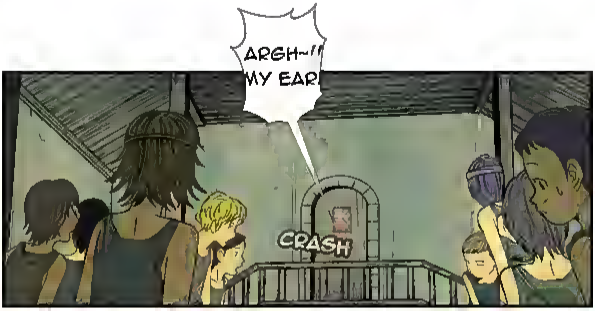
POW

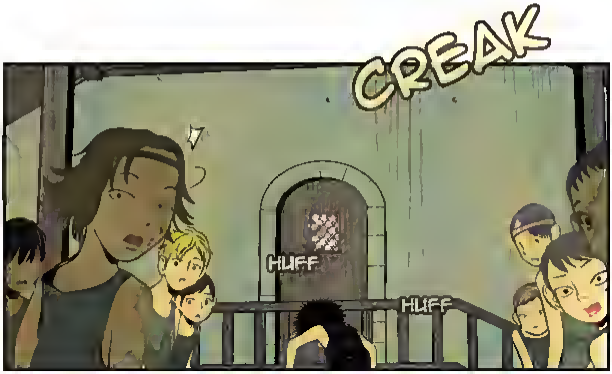



YOU
LITTLE
RAT!!

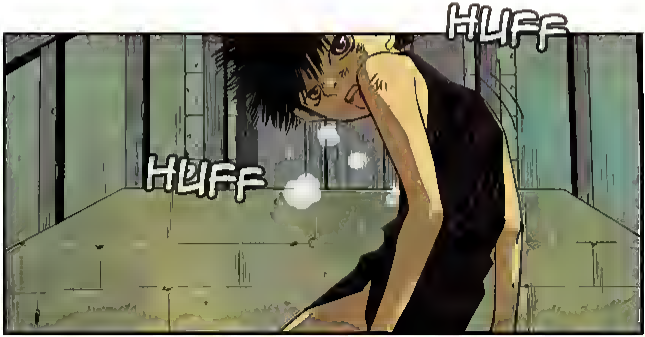

CRUNCH

ARGHHH!!
THUMP


ARGH~!!
MY EAR!
CRASH


CREAK
HUFF
HUFF

WHY IS IT SO NOISY?!!
KATA-KATA
KATA-KATA


HUFF
HUFF

HUH?
YOU LITTLE
BASTARD!

GRASP

COME HERE!!

WHIP
WHIP

WHIP
YOU PALTRY SHIT! LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE DONE!!!
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP

WHIP
WHIP
YOU DON'T BELONG HERE! I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE RIGHT PLACE FOR YOU!

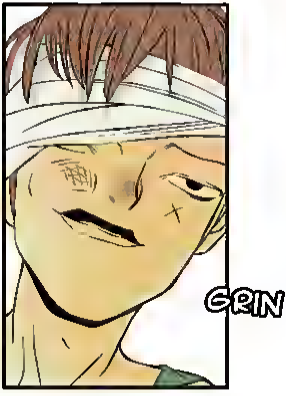
YOU
WILL GET
SOBER
THERE!

GRIN

HURLY-BURLY
HURLY-BURLY

AESOP,
THAT BASTARD!
WHEN HE'S BACK,
I'LL TEACH HIM
A LESSON!

BY THE WAY, ARE YOU SURE THAT THE BAKER KNOWS THE RECIPE?
EVERYBODY IN THE MARKET SAYS SO.

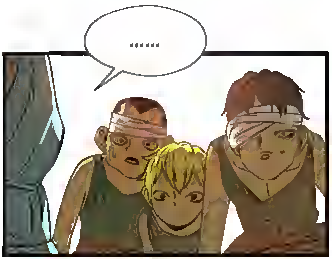

GRIN

MA'AM, WE HEARD YOU ARE THE BEST COOK IN THIS VILLAGE. ARE YOU?

OF COURSE, I AM!
DON'T THINK I AM ONLY GOOD AT BAKING!

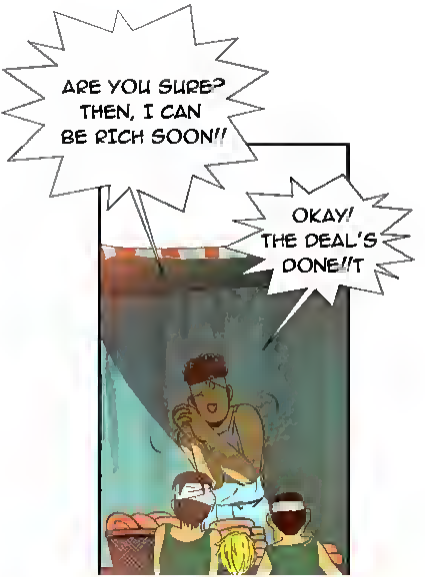
BY THE WAY, WHAT KIND OF DISH YOU WANT TO MAKE?
SOMETHING NOBLE. I WANT TO COOK DISH WHICH ONLY ARISTOCRATS EAT.

WELL, THAT'S TRICKY..


.....

BY THE WAY, IF I HELP YOU, WHAT WILL I GET?

I'LL ASK YOUNG MASTER TO BUY LOTS OF EXPENSIVE BREAD FROM HERE!

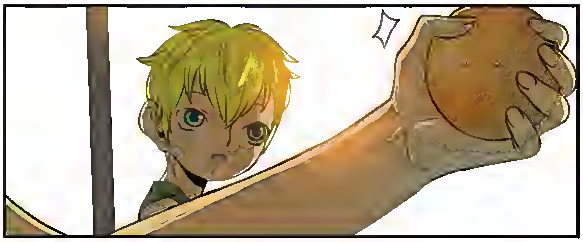

ARE YOU SURE? THEN, I CAN BE RICH SOON!!
OKAY! THE DEAL'S DONE!!T

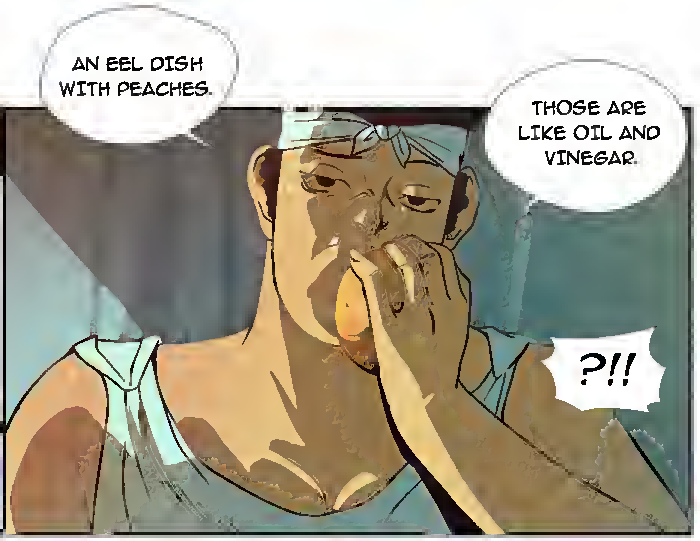
THEN, I'LL TELL YOU MY SECRET RECIPE...
?!!

R...REALLY?
IS THAT ALL?

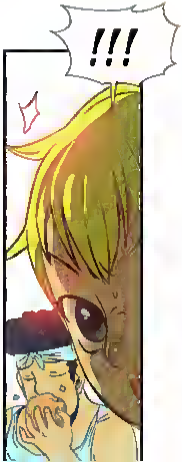
SURE!
AND IT WON'T
BE DIFFICULT
TO FIND THOSE
INGREDIENTS.

THANK YOU! I SHALL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS!!
WELL... YOU'LL REGRET WHAT YOU'VE JUST SAID.
?
WHAT KIND OF RECIPE DID YOU TELL HIM?




AN EEL DISH WITH PEACHES.
THOSE ARE LIKE OIL AND VINEGAR.
?!!

WHOEVER THEY ARE, THE PEOPLE WHO EAT WILL SUFFER FROM SEVERE STOMACHACHE.
THEY WILL GET MORE FURIOUS THAN EVER.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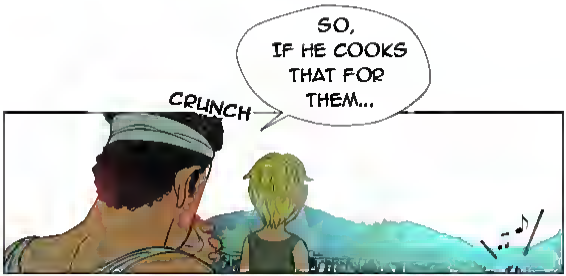

WELL. PROBABLY. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE HIM AGAIN.

<THE FOX AND THE CRANE>
THE END